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is the only newspaper  
in Newport News that  
receives full Asso-  
ciated Press report.

# Daily Press

THE WEATHER.  
Slightly cloudy and  
colder Tuesday; Wed-  
nesday fair and cold;  
fresh northwest winds.

VOL. XI. NO. 299.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1906.

PRICE TWO CENTS

## ALL NORTHWEST IS CRYING FOR COAL

Unless the Existing Conditions are  
Relieved Soon There Will  
be Loss of Life.

## RAILROADS ARE RUSHING FUEL

If a Winter Storm Should, However,  
Visit the Afflicted Country There  
Would Be Awful Distress—Minne-  
sota, the Dakotas and Montana  
Will Legislate on the Subject.

(By Associated Press.)  
GRAND FORKS, N. D., Dec. 17.—  
The fuel situation today is the most  
critical ever known in the history  
of the State. Careful inquiry in  
every portion of the northern half  
of the State shows that there is  
not a town in which coal can be  
had except in small quantities. In  
dozens of places there is not a  
pound to be bought, the dealers  
having been out of fuel for days.  
One of the most serious features is  
the possibility of snow blockade. A  
storm such as is usual at any time  
in the winter would pile up immense  
drifts and tie up the roads abso-  
lutely for many days and cripple  
them for the winter.

Will Legislate on Subject.  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Dec. 17.—  
Investigation of the present fuel  
famine crisis in the northwest may  
not stop with the investigation of  
the Interstate Commerce Commis-  
sion now on in Minneapolis. It is  
probable that in every affected State  
but notably Minnesota, North and  
South Dakota, and Montana, the sub-  
ject will make a matter for legisla-  
tive investigation. Northwestern  
coal dealers have indicated to the  
large shippers here that they plan  
to stir up official investigation in  
the States. The race is on between  
the railroads and the cold. If the  
weather wins, cutting down the  
efficiency of the motive power and  
bringing on heavy blizzards, there  
will be suffering and almost certain-  
ly loss of life. Reports today in-  
dicate that the railroads are rush-  
ing fuel into the districts where  
there is either an actual want or  
stocks are low.  
Interstate Commerce Commission-  
ers Lane and Harlan began an in-  
quiry here today, the state purpose  
being to fully enter into the condi-  
tions attaching to freight situation  
in the northwest.

## DR. SKELETON BAILED

Alleged Poisonous Medicines to be  
Analyzed.  
Dr. Granville A. Skeleton, who was  
arrested in Bloodfield Saturday by  
Chief of Police Walker of the Blood-  
field force on the charge of adminis-  
tering poisonous drugs to a patient,  
was bailed by Justice Jones yesterday  
morning. The amount of the bond  
was fixed at \$250 and Sheriff S. S.  
Curtis of Warwick county was accepted  
as security.  
Chief Walker will forward the al-  
leged poisonous medicines to Rich-  
mond today for analysis by prominent  
physicians of that city.

## BYWATERS WELL KNOWN HERE.

Young Man Who Was Shot to Death  
Visited City Last Fall.  
William F. Bywaters, the young  
man who was shot to death at Cul-  
pepper Saturday by James A. and  
Phillip J. Strother, brothers of the  
dead man's bride of an hour, was well  
known in this city and the news of  
his untimely end came as a shock to  
his friends. The young man made his  
last visit to this city last fall.  
The affair has been much talked  
about here and the outcome of the  
coroner's inquest and the trial of  
the young men will be watched with con-  
siderable interest.

## MATCH POOL TOURNAMENT.

Crack Players of Norfolk, Hampton  
and This City.  
The first game of a match pool  
tournament which has been arranged  
between players representing Newport  
News, Hampton and Norfolk, will be  
played at Bohlen's pool room on  
Washington avenue tonight. This  
match will be between Dr. Bagby, re-  
presenting this city, and Professor  
Dodd, representing Hampton. The  
date of the second match will be an-  
nounced tonight. Norfolk is rep-  
resented in the tournament by B. J.  
Lewis, who is said to be an exception-  
ally clever shot.  
Besides Dr. Bagby, Eddie Dannie  
will represent this city.

## MONTANA PARTY LEAVES.

Started For Home via Washington  
Sunday Evening.  
Miss Minnie A. Conrad, who chris-

tened the armored cruiser Montana  
Saturday, her parents and the rest  
of the christening party, left for  
home via Washington Sunday even-  
ing.

## FILIPINO TAR ARRESTED.

Delemoneta Had a Big Revolver on  
His Person.  
Gregorio Delemoneta, a Filipino  
sailor of the crew of the United States  
army transport Meade was arrested in  
Rockets Sunday afternoon by Officer  
Ed. Moss on the charge of carrying  
concealed weapons. The tar had a  
large revolver on his person. In the  
police court yesterday morning Justice  
Brown continued the case until today.

## Bills Ordered Paid.

The building, grounds and lights  
committee of the council met last  
night and audited bills. The fire de-  
partment and water committee was  
scheduled to meet, but failed to have  
a quorum.

## FEAST OF DEDICATION.

Enjoyable Entertainment Given Under  
Auspices of Y. M. H. A.  
An entertainment in celebration of  
the feast of dedication was given at  
Levinson's hall last night under the  
auspices of the Young Men's Hebrew  
Association.  
The entertaining program included:  
Recitations by Harry Peltz, Will Segal,  
and Bonnie Cohen; kindling of lights  
and prayer by Rev. T. H. Schwartz;  
recitation by Miss Rebecca Reifeld;  
instrumental selections by Misses  
Bessie Reyner, Lena Peltz and Goldie  
Reifeld; address by Mr. E. J. Graff;  
vocal solos by Misses Rosa Schwartz  
and Bella Klasky.  
An excellent supper was served af-  
ter the program had been rendered.

## Lester Goes to Jail.

A. F. Lester a young white man,  
was given sixty days in jail by  
Justice Brown in the police court  
yesterday morning for disorderly  
conduct and resisting arrest. Sat-  
urday night Lester, when arrested  
for being disorderly, kicked Patrol-  
man Sam Pearson in the mouth.

## TOWN IS PARALYZED

Failure of Waynesburg Pa., Bank  
Puts Business at Standstill.

## STORES MAY CLOSE THEIR DOORS

Cashier of the Suspended Bank, is  
However, Said to Be Wealthy  
Enough to Pay All Depositors Who  
Had Money in Bank.

## (By Associated Press.)

WAYNESBURG, PA., Dec. 17.—  
With the closing of the Farmers and  
Drivers' National Bank last Wed-  
nesday, the arrest at Harrisburg on  
Cashier J. B. F. Rinehart, charged  
with making false reports to the  
comptroller of the currency, and the  
discovery of an alleged dis-  
crepancy amounting to \$950,000, busi-  
ness in this city is almost at a stand-  
still. Many merchants sold scarce-  
ly a dollar's worth of goods today  
and some contemplate closing their  
stores until the bank difficulty has  
been adjusted. Hundreds of men  
women and children in Waynesburg,  
and the surrounding region had  
their money deposited in the Farm-  
ers and Drivers' bank, and as a re-  
sult of their inability to get at  
their savings the holiday season  
promises to be a sorry one.  
To secure trade and show their  
confidence in the situation several  
merchants today displayed notices  
in their windows that checks on  
the Farmers and Drivers bank would  
be accepted in payment of holiday  
goods. It is feared that a shortage  
of cash will cause further business  
depression.  
Rinehart returned to Waynesburg  
from Pittsburgh tonight and was met  
by several of the bank officials, to  
whom he had a conference. Later  
it was given out that there was no  
reason for depositors to be alarmed  
as Rinehart's personal assets were  
sufficient to cover any amount  
might have to be made good. It  
estimated here that he is worth  
considerably over \$1,000,000.

## COMMITTEE TO APPRAISE THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Trustees Think Values Given in  
Fire Insurance Policies are  
Excessive.

President Puckett, of the board  
of school trustees, has appointed  
Messrs. Harrison Sibby and Haw-  
kins a committee of three to ap-  
praise the city public school build-  
ings. The committee will begin  
work at the January meeting.  
The appointment of this com-  
mittee was authorized by the board  
last Thursday, the trustees being  
of the opinion that the values of  
the buildings state in fire insur-  
ance policies carried on them were  
excessive.

## CAPTAIN OF LINER TAKES HIS OWN LIFE

Piled the Steamship Victoria Louise  
on Jamaica Reefs and Then  
Blew His Brains Out.

## PASSENGERS ALL ESCAPED INJURY

Steamer Was Loaded With Americans  
Who Were Making a Tour of West  
Indies—Ship Pounding Badly, But  
Hopes of Saving Her Are Enter-  
tained.

## (By Associated Press.)

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, Dec. 17.—  
The Hamburg-American liner tourist  
steamer Prizesin Victoria Louise  
from New York, December 12, for this  
port, went ashore last night off Port  
Royal while on her way back to New  
York. The passengers were landed  
here safely today. Captain Bruns-  
wig, who was in charge of the Victo-  
ria while she struck, committed sui-  
cide by blowing out his brains in his  
cabin. The German cruiser Bremen  
has gone to the assistance of the  
stranded steamer, and the French  
training ship Dummay Truin, is pre-  
paring to leave here with the same  
object in view.  
The Victoria Louise is pounding  
heavily and the seas are breaking  
over her, but hopes are still entertained  
that she will be saved. She is resting  
on a rocky ledge.  
Was Without a Pilot.  
In accounting for the stranding of  
the steamer it is explained that she  
was without a pilot and the captain  
was in charge. He followed a wrong  
course and piled her upon the rocks  
just under the light house. Two hours  
later the captain locked himself in  
his cabin and blew out his brains. The  
officers of the ship and the German  
consul here made ineffectual efforts  
to hush up the news of the tragedy.  
The local police are arranging to take  
charge of the body and perform an  
autopsy. The body possibly will be  
sent to New York for burial.  
When the Victoria Louise ran upon  
the rocks the sea was calm, the pre-  
sent heavy weather coming up later.  
The passengers were thrown into a  
state of panic and great confusion  
prevailed until it was learned that  
there was no immediate danger. The  
officers succeeded in restoring order  
and the transfer of the passengers to  
Kingston was effected without acci-  
dent.

## MOODY TAKES PLACE ON SUPREME COURT BENCH

Attorney General Bonaparte Oscar  
S. Stittus and Secretary Met-  
calf Assume New Work.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Dec. 17.—  
William H. Moody, formerly attorney  
general, today entered upon his du-  
ties as an Associate Justice of the  
Supreme Court of the United States,  
thus bringing the court up to its full  
membership.  
He was inducted into office at  
the beginning of today's session  
of court with the usual ceremonies.  
As soon as the opening of the  
court had been announced by the  
court crier, Chief Justice Fuller  
proclaimed the presence of the new  
associate, saying that it gave him  
pleasure to present him to the  
members of the bar.  
He was escorted by Marshal  
Wright to his seat on the extreme  
left of the bench. Former Sec-  
retary Bonaparte was introduced to  
the court as the next attorney gen-  
eral by the solicitor general.

## AMERICAN OARSMEN HAVE TO BE AMATEURS

English Association Insist That Scul-  
lers from This Country Must be  
Without Taint.

## (By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Dec. 17.—As a result  
of disclosure during the inquiry held  
by the National Association of Amateur  
Oarsmen of America that the ex-  
penses of the crew of the Vesper  
Boat club of Philadelphia, which rowed  
at Henley in 1905, had been paid  
in part by public subscription, which  
disqualified them, under the laws of  
the Amateur Association of England,  
the stewards of Henley regatta  
passed a resolution, under which all  
American crews and scullers are de-  
barred in future from competing at  
the Henley regatta until the American  
Rowing Association complete an  
agreement with the Henley commit-  
tees such as already exists with the  
French, Dutch, Belgian and Canadian  
associations.

Deputy Collector of Customs  
Charles Spencer is ill at his home  
on Thirty-fifth street.

## MUST HAVE YOUNGER OFFICERS, SAYS DEWEY

Navy's Strength Would be Greatly  
Increased if the Personnel  
Bill Became a Law.

## EXPERIENCED CAPTAINS NECESSARY

The Admiral With Good Officers  
Under Him is Bound to Win the  
Fight—Togo's Victory on the Sea  
of Japan Cited as Conclusive  
Proof.

## (By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C. Dec. 17.—  
Admiral Dewey in an interview  
today expressed deep concern over  
the existing conditions of the com-  
missioned personnel of the line of  
the navy and his gratification over  
the President's strong special mes-  
sage sent to congress today on the  
subject.  
"Under the present system as a  
rule," he continued, "captains and  
admirals are so old when they reach  
their grades and serve such short  
times in their grades that they  
cannot possibly obtain the experi-  
ence that is essential to the full  
development of their skill and ef-  
ficiency."

"We have a most intelligent and  
efficient enlisted personnel. They  
can shoot straight and quick and  
can be depended upon in the hour of  
need, thoroughly to do their part,  
but in a fleet action between battle-  
ships, a skilled admiral, with ex-  
perience captains under him soon  
obtains the advantage of position and  
will win the fight by superior tactical  
experience and skill."

"Admirals and captains are not  
born any more than skilled chess  
players are born."  
The Admiral added: "This marine  
chess game has been recently played  
in the sea of Japan. Admiral To-  
go, with skillful and experienced  
captains under him, handled his  
fleet with consummate skill and won  
in less time than it takes to tell  
the story."

## Vitality Important to Navy.

"Let us look facts squarely in  
the face and not follow the example  
of the ostrich and bury our heads  
in the sand. The people want an  
efficient navy and they spend a  
hundred millions a year to have it,  
and I affirm solemnly and without re-  
servation that the enactment of the  
excellent report of the personnel  
board into law, by which the gov-  
ernment would save about one mil-  
lion dollars each year and which  
would retain our most efficient of-  
ficers on the sea going list and  
cause them to reach the grade of  
captain at 48 and rear admiral at  
55, is vitally important to the fight-  
ing efficiency of the navy. The  
executive department of the govern-  
ment has submitted the facts and the  
remedy to Congress, and it is  
to be devoutly hoped that our law-  
makers, who alone can remedy the  
evil, will take immediate action."

## SCHOONER HAS HARD TIME IN HEAVY GALE

Encountered a Fierce Northwester  
Off the Maryland Coast and Lost  
Most of Her Sails.

## (By Associated Press.)

PORTLAND, MAINE, Dec. 17.—  
Captain Hinson of the schooner  
J. R. Teel, of Boston, which arrived  
today, 12 days overdue, from Brun-  
swick, Ga., with thousands of feet  
of hard pine for Canadian ports, reports  
a trying experience on December 4.  
When off the Maryland coast she  
ran into a northwest gale, the miz-  
zen was torn to shreds, the spars  
bent and loosened and portions of  
the deck lost. For a week the  
vessel lay near Handkerchief shoals  
awaiting favorable weather.

## ASKS AMMUNITION SHIPS FOR THE NAVY

Rear Admiral Mason Urges Building  
of Two Large Vessels to Carry  
Gun Supplies.

## (By Associated Press.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 17.—De-  
claring that in the design of ves-  
sels of the battle fleet the space  
and weight assigned to ammunition  
has been so restricted that the am-  
munition on board under certain  
conditions of battle, would be ex-  
pended in less than an hour, Rear  
Admiral N. E. Mason, chief of the  
bureau of ordinance, urges in his  
annual report the building of two  
vessels of considerable size, one on  
the Atlantic and one on the Pacific  
coast, devoted exclusively to the car-  
riage of ammunition. Ultimately he  
says, there should be one of these  
vessels with each fleet so fitted with

appliances for assembling and break-  
ing down ammunition that they  
might serve as great a degree as  
possible as floating magazines.

Lessons drawn from the war with  
Spain, Rear Admiral Mason, says,  
lead him to recommend the equip-  
ping of an auxiliary vessel for use  
as a machine shop and store ves-  
sel with the fleet.

## COALING DEVICE TESTED.

Battleship Iowa and Collier Abarenda  
at Sea.  
The United States battleship Iowa  
and the naval collier Abarenda pass-  
ed out of the Capes at noon yester-  
day on their way to sea to test the new  
British coaling device for loading coal  
on warships at sea. The collier had  
several thousand tons aboard and the  
loading device was fitted on her  
decks. The test was to have taken  
place yesterday afternoon, but the  
vessels have not yet returned to  
Hampton Roads and no information  
was obtainable last night.

It was the original intention of the  
navy department to have the test made  
with the battleship Indiana, but Sun-  
day the Iowa was designated to make  
the trial. The coaling test was super-  
vised by a special board composed of  
Captain Adolph Marx, Commander  
Nelson and Naval Constructor Zahn.

## Enjoyable Smoker.

The Jefferson Avenue Athletic  
Club gave an enjoyable "smoker" in  
the club hall on Jefferson avenue  
last night. An informal program  
was rendered and at its conclusion  
refreshments were served.

## Essex on Route.

The Merchants & Miners steamer  
Essex arrived at this city from  
Baltimore yesterday morning on her  
first voyage in the coastwise freight  
service between Baltimore, Newport  
News, Norfolk and Boston since  
she was rebuilt at the shipyard.  
She sailed for Norfolk and Boston  
yesterday afternoon.

## King Oscar Improving.

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 17.—King Os-  
car passed another good day. He  
had several hours sleep and his  
improvement continues.

## BAD CRASH ON CENTRAL

Buffalo Local Tears Into Freight  
But no Lives Are Lost.

## ALL PASSENGER CARS ARE BURNED

It Was the Sort of an Accident That  
Would Usually Mean a Large Death  
List, But Passengers Were Only  
Shaken Up.

## (By Associated Press.)

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 17.—The  
New York Central train known as  
"the Buffalo train," a fast train run-  
ning between New York and Buffalo,  
was wrecked about a mile east of Pal-  
myra this afternoon. The engineer  
was fatally injured and the entire  
train, with the exception of one Pull-  
man was burned to the trucks. A lo-  
cal freight was taking water at the  
umping station, when suddenly an-  
other freight came in sight on the  
same track. It ran into the rear of  
the first freight, knocking the caboose  
and a coal car over on the passenger  
track.

The crew started to flag "The Bu-  
falo Local" which was due, but almost  
immediately the local came in sight  
with two engines making up lost  
time. The heavy car threw the en-  
gines over the track and down an em-  
bankment. The baggage car was  
thrown partly off the rails, but none  
of the other cars left the tracks. Every  
one on the passenger cars were badly  
shaken up, but none were seriously  
injured.

Engineer Harris, of Rochester, who  
was in the first engine, and, who by  
sticking to his post, saved many lives,  
was dug out from under the wreckage  
terribly injured.

The caboose took fire and set fire  
to the passenger train. In a short  
time every one of the passenger cars,  
including two Pullmans, one day  
coach, a smoker, an express and a  
baggage car, were in flames and burned  
to their trucks. Several freight  
cars also caught fire and burned.

## Larceny Charged.

John Debriz, a negro employed at  
Caffee's undertaking establishment  
was arrested last night at Washing-  
ton avenue and Thirty-first street by  
Sergeant T. A. Mitchell and Officer  
Sam Pearson on the charge of lar-  
ceny. It is alleged that the negro  
stole a pocketbook containing \$7.40  
from Blanche Bailey, a negro woman.

## Entertainment at Y. M. C. A.

An entertainment will be given at  
the Y. M. C. A. hall tonight under the  
auspices of the Mary Washington  
Council, No. 8, Daughters of Liberty.  
An entertaining library and musical  
program has been arranged for the  
occasion.

## BLAME PLACED ON OPERATOR MATTOAX

Findings of Investigation of Wreck  
on Southern on Thanksgiving  
Day Given Out.

## RANGOON MAN WAS CARELESS

General Counsel A. P. Thom Issues a  
Statement on the Inquiry on the Ac-  
cident in Which President Spencer  
and Others Lost Their Lives—Mat-  
toax Admits He Was Negligent.

## (By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—  
The official investigation of the  
Southern railway into the rear end  
collision which occurred at Lawyers,  
Va., on Thanksgiving day and in  
which President Spencer of the  
Southern, and six others, including a  
number of prominent people, lost their  
lives, has been concluded and the re-  
sponsibility for the wreck placed on  
G. D. Mattoax, block operator at Ran-  
goon station, Virginia.

General Counsel A. P. Thom, of the  
railroad today issued the following  
statement announcing the official con-  
clusions:

"Train No. 33, bound South with  
Mr. Spencer's car No. 100 on the rear  
end, had, by the block operator at  
Rangoon block station, G. D. Mattoax,  
been let into the block at Rangoon.  
Mattoax also let into the same block  
Train No. 37, which, not knowing in  
time that train No. 33 was in the  
block, ran into it and caused the  
catastrophe."

"After passing Rangoon that morn-  
ing, train No. 33, which besides the  
engine and tender, consisted of a pos-  
tal car, an express car, a combined  
baggage and second class passenger  
car, a first class car, two sleepers and  
President Spencer's car, No. 100, at a  
point something over a mile from Ran-  
goon station separated into two parts  
because of the parting of a coupling  
between the express and the combin-  
ed car."

"The emergency breaks were ap-  
plied automatically on both sections  
of the parted train, as intended in case  
of such contingencies, and both  
sections were stopped. Under the  
circumstances if the rules of company  
had been obeyed no other train could  
have passed Rangoon or entered the  
block in which this disabled train  
was."

## Company Rules Violated.

"The undisputed testimony shows  
that no less than three different rules  
of the company were violated by Mat-  
toax, the operator at Rangoon, the ob-  
servance of any one of which would  
have prevented the accident."

"One of the rules, (Rule 118), pro-  
vides as follows:

"When a train enters the block the  
signal man must give 'OS' train No.  
—and the time to the next block  
station in advance and when the train  
has passed the home block and the  
signal man has seen to the markers,  
he must display the stop signal, and  
when the rear of the train has passed  
200 feet beyond the home block signal  
he must give 'BC' block clear, of  
No. — and the time to the next  
block station in the rear."

"This information must be entered  
on the block records. The operator  
at Lawyers did not give this informa-  
tion to Mattoax, the operator at Ran-  
goon, as to train No. 33, Mattoax  
therefore, not having received the re-  
quired information in regard to the  
movements of train No. 33, violated  
this rule in regarding the block as  
clear of that train before letting in  
the following train known as first 37."

## Mattoax's Excuse.

"His excuse is that the operator at  
Lawyers did report train No. 33 as  
'by' Lawyers, but failed to give him  
the time it passed as required by the  
rules. There is some confusion in his  
testimony as to whether this occurred  
before first 37 passed Rangoon or just  
afterwards, but the operator at Law-  
yers emphatically denies that he sent  
any such message as claimed by Mat-  
toax and declares that Mattoax had  
never even informed him that train  
No. 33 wanted the block or had enter-  
ed it."

"While there exists this conflict of  
evidence, Operator Mattoax in his  
own statement admits that he did not  
receive from the operator at Lawyers  
the time train 33 passed out of the  
block at Lawyers, and excuses his  
failure to secure this information by  
the statement that after the operator  
at Lawyers had informed him that  
number 33 was 'by,' he, the operator  
at Lawyers, abruptly opened his key  
and he, Mattoax could not communi-  
cate with him."

## General Hood Dead.

BALTIMORE, MD., Dec. 17.—Gen-  
eral John M. Hood, president of the  
United Railways and Electric com-  
pany and for 28 years president of the  
Western Maryland railway company  
until its sale to the Gould interests,  
died tonight after a short illness.